



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

OFFICE OF  
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

January 29, 1993

Honorable Italo S. Cappabianca, Member  
Pennsylvania House of Representatives  
Room 30, East Wing-Main Capital Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-0028

Dear Mr. Cappabianca:

*Italo*

Thank you for your letter of January 12, 1993 regarding the Seaway Trail Bikeway in Erie, Pennsylvania. As requested, I would be pleased to provide you with the Department's plans for implementation along with the proposed design.

As part of the Interim Scenic Byways Program, established by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991, the Department secured \$452,800 in federal funds in FFY 1992 to construct Phase I of the bikeway. Phase I extends from the New York state line to Franklin Avenue, a distance of 17 miles. The initial plans were to widen the existing shoulder 2 feet to provide a 6 foot bike lane, separated from the travel lane by striping. This design is consistent with the recommendations of Mr. Brown. After further review of the project, it was determined that the existing shoulder is not adequate to accommodate a bike lane. Therefore, the scope of work has been changed to reconstruct the entire shoulder to accommodate the 6 foot bikeway. This resulted in an \$800,000 (\$640,000 federal/\$160,000 state) cost increase.

The Department's submittal of candidate projects to the Federal Highway Administration for FFY 1993 funding will include the additional federal funds for Phase I of the bikeway plus funding for Phase II. Phase II consists of two sections. The first section begins at the intersection of PA 5 and Alternate 5 (Franklin Avenue) in Lawrence Park Township and ends at Wayne Street in the City of Erie. The second section begins at Peninsula Drive in Millcreek Township and ends at PA 98 in Fairfield Township. The length of the two sections totals 9.5 miles. The estimated cost is \$800,000 (\$640,000 federal/\$160,000 state).

The remaining 20.5 miles of the bikeway has been divided into two additional phases.

o Phase III - Intersection of PA 98 to the Ohio state line in Fairview, Girard and Springfield Townships. Length - 16 miles. Total Cost: \$1,260,000 (\$1,080,000 federal/\$252,000 state).

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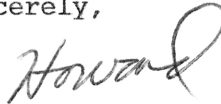
Honorable Italo S. Cappabianca

o Phase IV - Wayne Street in the City of Erie to Peninsula Drive in Mill Creek Township. There are two alternatives for this section of the bikeway. One is to continue on the designated Seaway Trail on PA 5 and PA 5 Alternate. The other is to construct the bikeway on the shoulder of the Bayfront Port Access Road. These two alternatives will be evaluated and discussed with local officials prior to selecting the preferred alternate. Length - 4.5 miles. Total Cost: \$350,000 (\$280,000 federal/\$70,000 state).

The Scenic Byways Program is an annual federally funded discretionary program. As long as the Scenic Byways Program exist, the Department will continue to submit the Seaway Trail Bikeway projects, along with other candidate projects for these discretionary funds.

I have attached a map which identifies the limits of each phase. I hope you find this information helpful to both you and Mr. Brown. If you have any additional questions, please contact Mr. Dean Collins, Planning and Programming Engineer, in our District Office in Franklin, Pennsylvania. Mr. Collins can be reached at 814/437-4383.

Sincerely,



Howard Yerusolim, P.E.  
Secretary of Transportation

Attachment

ITALO S. CAPPABIANCA, MEMBER  
1216 WEST 26TH STREET  
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16508-1520  
PHONE: (814) 453-7639  
FAX: (814) 871-4713

ROOM 30, EAST WING  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-0028  
PHONE: (717) 787-4358  
FAX: (717) 772-2284



COMMITTEES

FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS, CHAIRMAN

**House of Representatives**  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

January 12, 1992

Honorable Howard Yerusolim  
Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
1200 Transportation and Safety Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Secretary Yerusolim:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I recently received regarding the design of the Seaway/Bicycle Trail. This project has been of interest to me for over a year, my initial correspondence to you, dated February 10, 1992 discussed the funding for this project. Since that time, funding has been procured, and the Seaway Trail has been designated under the Scenic Byways program.

The trail is at a crucial juncture in that the design and construction of this bikeway will determine its usage and attraction of bikers to the Erie area. In his letter, Mr. Brown makes a very valid point that those who would use the trail should be consulted on its design. We must be concerned for their safety, as well as their interest in the trail.

The Seaway Trail has great potential. I am hopeful that you can offer me some information on your plans for implementation of this project. I look forward to hearing from you, and as always, appreciate your assistance in matters such as this.

Sincerely yours,

  
Italo S. Cappabianca,  
State Representative

ISC/cmr

enclosure

cc: Robert W. Brown, Jr.



## FRONTIER BIKE SHOP

1712 West 8th St.

Erie, Pa. 16505

[814]456-9803

January 6, 1993

Representative Italo Cappabianca  
1216 West 26th St.  
Erie, Pa. 16508

Re: The Seaway/Bicycle Trail

Dear Mr. Cappabianca,

I have been following the progress of the Seaway/Bicycle Trail project which will extend the "bike-way" through Pennsylvania via Route 5. I am extremely happy, because it seems that this endeavor will now become a reality.

This project would be a major accomplishment for the many bicycling enthusiasts in the Erie County area. It is not often that our tax dollars are utilized in such a ecologically and environmentally sound manner! Your efforts are greatly appreciated, but before the Seaway/Bicycle Trail construction begins, I would like to express my concerns.

I have been associated with the sport of bicycling for over twenty years, both as a participant and as the owner of the Frontier Bike Shop. I believe that my concerns are the general consensus of most cyclists in this area. I am worried that this "bike-way" will be designed by people who are not bicyclists, and therefore will not understand the needs of the serious cyclist. An example is the Peninsula "bike path" which through all good intentions started out to satisfy the needs of the biker, but now has generated into a recreation trail. I can tell you from personal experience that it is safer for any cyclist to ride on a highway with a wide, clean shoulder than it is to mix with pedestrian walkers, roller bladers, and dogs.

The best bike-ways in this country are very simple in design, because they are just extensions of the roads shoulder. They are well marked, paved, and separated from the vehicular traffic by a white line. This type of bike-way is not only more enjoyable for the cyclist, but much safer for both the pedestrian and the biker,

because it will separate the faster bicycle traffic from the walkers, etc. on the recreation trails.

Erie County has always been a great place for the bicyclists whether recreational or serious. A well planned "bike-way" along Route 5 will only enhance a fast growing sport, and it will attract more and more people to our area.

Thank you for all of your efforts in making this project happen.

Sincerely,

*Robert W. Brown, Jr.*

Robert W. Brown, Jr.

cc: Judge Richard L. Nygaard



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

OFFICE OF  
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

February 27, 1992

Honorable Italo S. Cappabianca  
House of Representatives  
1216 West 26th Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16508

Dear Mr. Cappabianca:

*Italo*

Thank you for the Erie County Legislative Delegation's letter of February 10, 1992, regarding legislative designation of the Pennsylvania Seaway Trail.

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1992 provides for the establishment of a national scenic byways program. Minimum criteria for the program are to be recommended by an advisory committee by June 1993.

The Act also provides funding and technical assistance to states for the planning, design and development of state scenic byways programs in FY1992 through FY1997. Available funding nationwide is \$1 million in FY1992, \$3 million in FY1993, \$4 million in FY1994, and \$14 million in FY1995, FY1996 and FY1997. These funds require a 20 percent match.

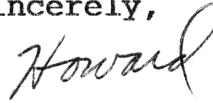
An Interim Scenic Byways Program was established for states which have a Scenic Byways Program in place or have established criteria for designating scenic byways. This program offers \$10 million in grants nationwide in FY1992, FY1993 and FY1994. It is unclear at this time whether Pennsylvania will qualify for the Interim Program funds. Guidelines for the Interim Program are expected to be released by April 1992 and should clarify Pennsylvania's eligibility.

The Department will closely monitor the development of these federal guidelines and criteria to ensure that Pennsylvania receives the maximum amount of funding that the state is eligible to receive. I will keep you informed of

any legislative action deemed necessary to strengthen  
Pennsylvania's proposal for federal scenic byways funding.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Howard".

Howard Yerusolim, P.E.  
Secretary of Transportation



**ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION**  
of the  
**Pennsylvania General Assembly**

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**A. Buzz Andrezeski**  
*State Senator, 49th District*

----

**Karl W. Boyes**  
*Representative, 3rd District*

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**Italo S. Cappabianca**  
*Representative, 2nd District*

February 10, 1992

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**Kenneth E. Kruszewski**  
*Representative, 1st District*

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**James R. Merry**  
*Representative, 5th District*

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**Thomas J. Scrimenti**  
*Representative, 4th District*

Honorable Howard Yerusolim, P.E.  
Secretary of Transportation  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
1200 Transportation and Safety Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Re: Draft of Legislation - Pennsylvania Seaway Trail

Dear Howard:

As you are undoubtedly aware, under date of December 13, 1990, the Secretary of the Interior has designated the Pennsylvania Seaway Trail as America's 783rd National Recreation Trail. Moreover, a supply of official markers were provided with a certificate of designation and the marker is registered with the United States Patent Office.

We, as the Erie County Legislative Delegation, are pleased that the Secretary of the Interior has designated the Pennsylvania Seaway Trail. In this regard, we are proposing the necessary legislation to officially legislate and designate under Pennsylvania statute that the trail of approximately forty-six (46) miles from the New York border to the Ohio border follow PA Route 5, PA Alternate 5 and U. S. Route 20.

It is our understanding that by proposing this legislation, it may assist in obtaining grant monies that are available from the Federal government. We, as the Erie County Legislative Delegation, want to assure and maximize that the total amount of potential Federal dollars are strengthened by this legislative proposal.



Honorable Howard Yerusolim, P. E.  
Secretary of Transportation  
February 10, 1992  
Page 2

We would like to thank you in advance for your kind  
consideration to this matter.

With best regards, we are

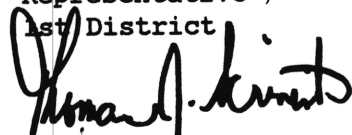
Sincerely,



Italo S. Cappabianca  
Representative  
2nd District



Kenneth E. Kruszewski  
Representative  
1st District



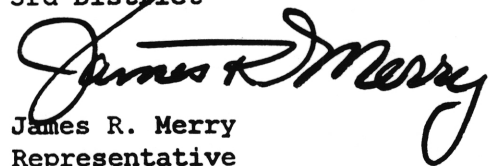
Thomas J. Scrimenti  
Representative  
4th District



A. Buzz Andrezeski  
Senator  
49th District



Karl W. Boyes  
Representative  
3rd District



James R. Merry  
Representative  
5th District

THOMAS J. SCRIMENTI  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

- 9 WEST MAIN STREET  
NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428  
PHONE: (814) 725-8664  
TOLL FREE: 1 (800) 962-2304
- 9 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA 16407  
PHONE: (814) 664-9126
- HOUSE POST OFFICE BOX 96  
25B, EAST WING  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-0028  
PHONE: (717) 787-9475



House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE  
SECRETARY  
AGING & YOUTH  
INSURANCE  
POLICY

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives  
FROM: Representative Thomas J. Scrimenti  
DATE: January 6, 1992  
SUBJECT: Pennsylvania's Seaway Trail

I plan to introduce legislation designating a forty-six mile highway corridor as Pennsylvania's Seaway Trail. The federal government recently recognized the Pennsylvania Seaway Trail as America's 783rd trail in our National Recreation Trail System.

While the federal government has recognized Pennsylvania's Seaway Trail, state legislation recognizing the Seaway Trail is necessary to ensure that Pennsylvania remains in a competitive position to receive additional funding when federal highway grants become available. New York State has already enacted legislation recognizing its portion of the Seaway Trail.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Jodi at 7-9475.

Signe 70  
Kosinski 114  
Bisac 115  
Michael 114  
Warpner 47  
Johnson 63  
Stabaek 28  
Cappabianca 73  
Allen 11

Curjowski 44  
Preston 153  
Langhin 50  
Pistella 135

January 24, 1992

The Honorable Italo S. Cappabianca  
State Representative  
Box 73 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Representative Cappabianca:

I am writing to support the initiative taken by the Erie Area Chamber of Commerce and its Tourism Specialist, August P. Schiava, as regards Seaway Trail Pennsylvania and its inclusion in any scenic byway's funding proposal submitted to the Federal Government by the Commonwealth.

It is my understanding that a house bill is being prepared based on Mr. Schiava's request concerning Seaway Trail Pennsylvania.

The benefits to Erie and the region in terms of tourism and nature enjoyment are many.

I would ask your support of this initiative and the house bill now under way.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support on this matter.

Sincerely,



Joyce A. Savocchio  
Mayor

JAS/mnl



**ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION**  
of the  
**Pennsylvania General Assembly**

**A. Buzz Andrezeski**  
State Senator, 49th District

**Karl W. Boyes**  
Representative, 3rd District

**Italo S. Cappabianca**  
Representative, 2nd District

**Kenneth E. Kruszewski**  
Representative, 1st District

**James R. Merry**  
Representative, 5th District

**Thomas J. Scrimenti**  
Representative, 4th District

February 4, 1992

**SUBJECT: Delegation Meeting: Schedule Change**

**TO: All Members, Erie Delegation**

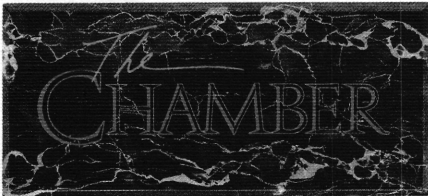
**FROM: Rep. Italo S. Cappabianca**

Due to a conflict in scheduling, and the possibility that the House may not be in Session on Wednesday, I have been asked to reschedule the Delegation meeting, originally planned for Wednesday, February 12, to **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, at 10:00 A.M., in my office.**

Again, Mr. Ed Nolan of the State System of Higher Education will be meeting with us to discuss the University Center, at Edinboro University.

I am hopeful that this change will better suit everyone's schedule. Please call my office to confirm your attendance. Thank you.

- ① Agenda for discussion  
Seaway Trail Pennsylvania
- ② Sponsorship of Bill  
(a) reasons needed for legislation?
- ③ Letter to Howard Yerusalem  
(a) Copy of legislation  
(b) need for legislation  
(c) legislative support for project



**THE CORNERSTONE OF BUSINESS**

January 21, 1992

Mr. Italo S. Cappabianca  
Representative - 2nd District  
1216 West 26th Street  
Erie, PA 16508

Dear Mr. Cappabianca:

I would like to bring to your attention additional information since my letter of November 21, 1991 discussing Seaway Trail Pennsylvania. (Copy Enclosed)

I have just received a copy of Seaway Trail New York draft proposal for federal funding under the Secondary Transportation Corridors Provision of the U.S. Surface Transportation Act.

I am bringing this to your attention in hope of your support to include Seaway Trail Pennsylvania in any scenic byways funding proposal submitted to the Federal Government by PennDot.

Thank you for your continued interest in this project.

**YOUR CHAMBER IS COMMITTED TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT.**

Eriesistibly,

August P. Schiava  
Tourism Specialist

APS:djw

Enclosure

**ERIE AREA  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

---

November 21, 1991

COPY

Italo Cappabianca  
State Representative  
Second District  
1216 West 26th Street  
Erie, PA 16508

Dear Representative Cappabianca:

On behalf of the Erie Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourist and Convention Bureau, and at the advice of Mr. Vincent J. Dee, President of Seaway Trail Inc. New York and Mr. Carl Jester, Trails Coordinator U.S. Department of the Interior and National Park Service Mid-Atlantic Region, I am requesting your help in sponsoring State Legislation that designates a "Seaway Trail" in Pennsylvania which meets criteria according to U.S. Public Law enacted in 1968.

I have enclosed the following to update you on Seaway Trail:

1. A copy of the invitation to The Ceremony Of Seaway Trail.
2. Secretary Manuel Lujan Jr.'s letter to Secretary Howard Yerusolim.
3. New York State Law designating a portion of the state highway as "Seaway Trail".
4. The Final Case Study for the National Scenic Byways Study.

Commonwealth Legislation will strengthen Pennsylvania's positioning with New York State's "Seaway Trail" and enhance our future positioning for Federal Highway Grants that will be made available by pending Scenic Byways Legislation.

Proper marketing of our Eriesistible Scenic Byway and National Recreation Trail, will positively impact economic development and tourism development in Erie County. This designation is consistent with and further enhances current bayfront development and downtown revitalization plans that will launch us into the next decade.

Thank you for considering my request. If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the Chamber by phone (814) 454-7191 or by fax (814) 459-0241.

YOUR CHAMBER IS COMMITTED TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Eriesistibly,

August P. Schiava  
Tourist and Convention Specialist

APS/kp  
Enclosure

**Eriesistible®**  
**The best things in life are here!**